

# **BARMULLOCH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2013**

The Report content covers some of the activities of your Board and Company from October 2012.

### **1. NEW HALL PROGRESS**

In September the Company submitted a Stage 2 Application and a five year Business Plan to the Big Lottery for a grant award of £900,000 to build a suite of halls on the site in Quarrywood Road. This is the final stage in a six-year effort involving some £160,000 in grant funding from the Big Lottery, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Housing Association. A decision is anticipated before Christmas. The grant application asks for £109,000 for revenue costs to help pay operating costs over five years, after which the building must generate enough income to be self supporting. This matter of long term sustainability will be a main concern of BL decision makers and the Company has put forward a strong case. We hope that the fact BCDC and its predecessor Barmulloch Tenants and Residents Association have successfully run a community hall for 56 years on the same site will be an influencing factor.

Much work is still required. Even with a Lottery grant, additional funding will be required to meet the build cost of approximately £1.5m. The Company has made application to a number of public and private organisations, with decisions expected within the next few months. We cannot put building work out to tender until we can guarantee all monies are available. Assuming all monies can be in place by the turn of the year, we would hope to have engaged a building contractor to start work in March 2014, with an anticipated completion date of February 2015.

We appreciate the tremendous support this project has received over many years from local organisations, potential users and elected representatives and not least from Company members. It is therefore a matter of much regret that it has taken so long to get to this stage, but we had to contend with a number of issues beyond our control.

Our efforts were led by consultants, Community Links Scotland, who provided a high degree of expertise and experience. In the past year your Board and Staff have had to devote considerable time to the project, attending numerous meetings with the Big Lottery, Consultants, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Housing Association, City Properties Limited, Collective Architects, Design Team, funding agencies, potential hall users and providing information and assistance to Community Links Scotland as required.

A formal offer has been received from City Properties to allow BCDC to purchase the site in Quarrywood Road.

Through the project, the Company has made many new contacts and it is pleasing to note they have, without exception, been complimentary about the way we have progressed our new hall plans.

### **2. EMBRACING CHANGE**

The necessary degree of analysis, research and forecasting needed to prepare the Big Lottery bid caused your Board to consider its role in the community. It became obvious that our services, activities and future planning had to be reviewed and not just because of the prospect of a new hall. Our first concern is for the community. Our community has seen many changes over the years and now is having to deal with austerity measures, which have the potential to impact negatively on health, housing, family relationships and the whole social fabric.

The Board have accepted the Company must change and adapt. We have decided to offer, in partnership, our services and activities to a wider area to include Barmulloch, Balornock, Royston, and Robroyston, old and new. On its own BCDC is effective. In unison with other areas we can jointly achieve greater benefits for our communities and increase local, regional and national focus in the area.

For example we have decided to extend an invitation to all organisations in these communities to become involved in C-in-the-Park and are contributing enthusiastically to the North East Transformation group and Friends of Robroyston Park.

Our future planning has also considered changes to our services and activities. An emphasis will now be placed on providing avenues to employment via training and direct employment and encouraging all ages to embrace enterprise and innovation in order to realise potential. We realise we should not rely on hall lets alone to raise income for the new halls, therefore the Board will also demonstrate enterprise by attempting to create new and possibly unique income earning services.

Change planning has also impacted on the Board. It has been necessary to develop the capacity of the Board in terms of training and experience. Board members attended a recent 'away day' at the Village Hall in Townhead where we

identified new concepts for our community. The session was led by personnel from Jobs and Business Glasgow (formerly Glasgow Regeneration Agency) who were much impressed by input from Board members. Other development training is being planned

As Board responsibilities grow it will be necessary to broaden the range of skills and experience available. Five co-opted members have agreed to assist the Board. All are professionally qualified and from the local area. They can provide assistance on business, engineering, information technology, youth development, training and personnel management.

### **3. COMMUNITY FUTURES 2014/2019**

The Board have always planned ahead and can boast of successful outcomes from a Community Action Plan 2004/2007 and Community Futures 2009/2012 document. A Community Futures 2014/2019 plan is presently being compiled.

It is being designed to span five years and to coincide with the five years revenue funding assistance from a successful Big Lottery application and a five year Cash Flow Forecast included in a Business Plan submitted to the Big Lottery. That period will be crucial to the long term sustainability of the new hall – after five years the new halls will have to become self supporting. An effective plan of action, regularly applied and reviewed will play a big part in our future income earning efforts.

The Community Futures 2014/2015 will be based on Glasgow City Council's Community Plan, in particular the five key areas the Council wish to address. BCDC will produce and publish the 2014/2019 plan.

### **4 FRIENDS OF ROBROYSTON PARK**

BCDC have had a long association with the Park. Through our efforts and in conjunction with Glasgow Life we were instrumental in having the Multi-Use games Arena installed and with the City Council Parks Department worked to provide the Childrens Playpark and new feature entrances. The Board have always recognised the potential benefits the Park has for the local community and how it could be used to bring together its surrounding communities.

In 2010 we attempted, without success, to form a 'Friends' group. We were delighted when the Rev. Daniel Frank revived the idea and formed a group that has attracted a lot of interest. BCDC are heavily involved, with Jim Hope acting as Treasurer and Margaret Henry, Bernadette Hewitt and Jackie Stewart as active committee members. Jackie also serves as 'Friends' webmaster.

### **5 C – IN – THE – Park**

Our summer gala has been running for six years. As it increased in size and moved to its present location it has always been regarded as successful. The Board believe the event has so much more to offer and when the opportunity arose to make the event a key part of Celebration Week in 2014, we agreed to play a part.

Last year we introduced a 2k Fun Run, assisted by the local Active Schools co-ordinators. It was a huge success, attracting over 100 runners, dog walkers, pram pushers and our mothers and toddlers group.

Next year we intend to run a 2k, 4k and a 10k race all in the Park as part of a sports theme to celebrate the commonwealth games coming to Glasgow. A number of other sports activities will be held and we anticipate the number of stalls will grow considerably. Local schools will feature heavily in the event, which we are planning to start at 10.00 am, running through till 3.00pm

### **6 CELEBRATION CITY**

This concept arose through the North East Transformation group. It is intended to celebrate the arrival of the Commonwealth games in Glasgow (July/August) and to encourage our local communities to become involved in sporting and community activities. An active committee, chaired by Daniel Frank, is planning a week of Celebration commencing on the 31<sup>st</sup> May with C-in-the-Park, followed by cultural events to be held in local halls and the Park.

Primary schools will be heavily involved in sports and other fun events, each class identifying with an African country. Pupils from the local High schools will be encouraged to work as leaders and co-ordinators of the event. An interesting feature will be an Opening Ceremony held in the Community Centre, with ball participating schools and organisations 'parading' to the Centre in games style from their respective bases.

BCDC are enthusiastic members of the organising committee.

### **7 TENANTS HALL**

As reported last year, we have a lease arrangement with Rob Roy Boxing Club for full use of the Hall. This has been a successful let with the Club proving to be excellent tenants and making a significant impact in the area. They provide a broad range of boxing and non boxing related training for all ages, male and female. Clearly any new build on the Quarrywood site could have a serious effect on their operations. Your Company believes the Boxing Club is doing valuable work. We would like to ensure their continued presence in the area and we are currently attempting to find them alternative, suitable accommodation.

#### **8. FORMER CHURCH HALL**

We are indebted to the Church of Scotland for the continuing use of their former church hall for a nominal annual fee. Originally the lease document was for a year, but they are aware of our new build plans and have indicated we can use the hall for the foreseeable future.

Our duty is to use the hall responsibly and to keep it well maintained. I am delighted to report that no vandalism has been reported in what is a well used facility. Some wear and tear is being experienced in a well used hall that attracts approximately 350 users per week. This is the responsibility of the Company and we plan to carry out some refurbishment work in the kitchen by replacing worn worktops and installing a new cooker.

The Church is currently carrying out a valuation exercise on all their premises in Glasgow and has promised to keep us informed of their long term plans for the building.

#### **9. BARCLAYS FUNDING**

The Company together with Glasgow Life were instrumental in bringing the Multi-Use Games Arena to Robroyston Park with funding from the Barclays Football Foundation. BCDC is responsible for reporting to the foundation every six months on the use and maintenance of the facility.

Monies received from Barclays to provide sports coaching has been used up, but we are delighted to report that the Foundation wish to continue working with us. The MUGA has been selected as one of their priority projects for 2014 and we are in discussions to identify other sports activities within the Park that could be sponsored. A positive relationship has been established with Barclays representatives and they are interested in the wider, social and economic development activities that BCDC promote.

#### **10. SOCIAL EVENTS**

In the past year the company organised a number of events. These included:

St Andrews Night	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2012
Christmas Fayre	7 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
Easter Extravaganza	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Race Night	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2013
C in the Park	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2013
Family Fun Night	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2013
Table Top Sale	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2013

From income generated the Company donated £200 to Glasgow's Helping Heroes Fund and £100 to a local family in need.

I am delighted to report that BCDC covered its basic operating costs from income earned by Board endeavours, as it has done since its inception in 2004.

#### **11. BCDC ASSISTANCE TO OTHER GROUPS**

Over recent years the Board has become increasingly involved in assisting local organisations. For example the Company frequently loans out its display boards, tents and games. Company staff and Board members are regular helpers at events throughout the area.

The Company also lends its expertise to help organisations compile and submit funding requests. Over the past year seven local groups have been assisted in this fashion.

## **12. WEBSITE.**

Your company website [www.bcdcglasgow.co.uk](http://www.bcdcglasgow.co.uk) is designed and maintained by our Treasurer Jackie Stewart. It is comprehensive and contains company history, activities, photographs calendar of events, means of contact and many other details about BCDC. It is becoming increasingly popular and receives many 'hits' per month.

## **13. WHATS ON**

The hall is in use every day Monday to Friday. Activities ongoing include a Playgroup (3-sessions), Bingo (2-sessions), Arts and Crafts Club, Barmulloch Coffee Club, Line Dancing, Youth Club, Slimming Club (2 sessions), Credit Union (3 sessions), Citizens Advice Bureau and Boot Camp Dance. It is the base for all BCDC activities and meetings and is increasingly housing committee meetings of other local organisations. Many one-off Saturday or Sunday lets are granted for birthday and family parties, communion celebrations and other social events.

## **14. BCDC REPRESENTATION**

Your Company is represented on a number of local organisations. By invitation staff and Board members serve on Barmulloch Parents Council, Unity Homes Housing Association, Robroyston Park Local Nature Reserve Management Committee, Springburn Credit Union and Friends of Robroyston Park.

## **15 BCDC STAFF**

We continue to operate with only one staff member. As reported last year we secured funds to employ the post holder from November 2011 for one year. Since December 2012 Development Officer has worked without pay.

## **16 NEWSLETTER**

The Company Newsletter was produced four times in the past year and was hand delivered them to every household in Barmulloch. The Newsletter does not report on things past. It is intended to make the people of Bamulloch aware of what is available for them and what is being planned for the future.

With such a forward looking approach we hope to create an enthusiasm in our community that will benefit all.

## **17 BTRA – PRESENT STATUS**

For information, Barmulloch Tenants and Residents Association is registered as a Company incorporated at Companies House and has Registered Charity Status. The Company is dormant, i.e not trading. Its current status will be maintained and reviewed regularly. BTRA are still technically owners of the existing hall in Quarrywood Road and will remain so until the new hall is occupied.

## **18. THANKS**

The Board wish to thank the following for their support and encouragement throughout the past year.

Councillors Leonard, Boyle, Burke and Singh  
Willie Bain MP  
Paul Martin MSP  
Glasgow City Council (various departments)  
Glasgow Housing Association  
Unity Homes Housing Association  
Police Scotland  
Strathclyde Fire and Rescue  
New Rhythms Glasgow  
Community Links Scotland  
Church of Scotland  
Rob Roy Boxing Club  
Glasgow Community Planning  
Jobs and Business Glasgow  
All Saints High School, Balornock, Barmulloch, St Catherines, St Martha's and Wallacwell Primary Schools  
Collective Architecture  
City Properties  
North Glasgow College  
Glasgow Life  
John Wheatley College  
Local Clergy  
All Members of the Company and the Board of Directors and Co-optees.